



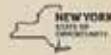
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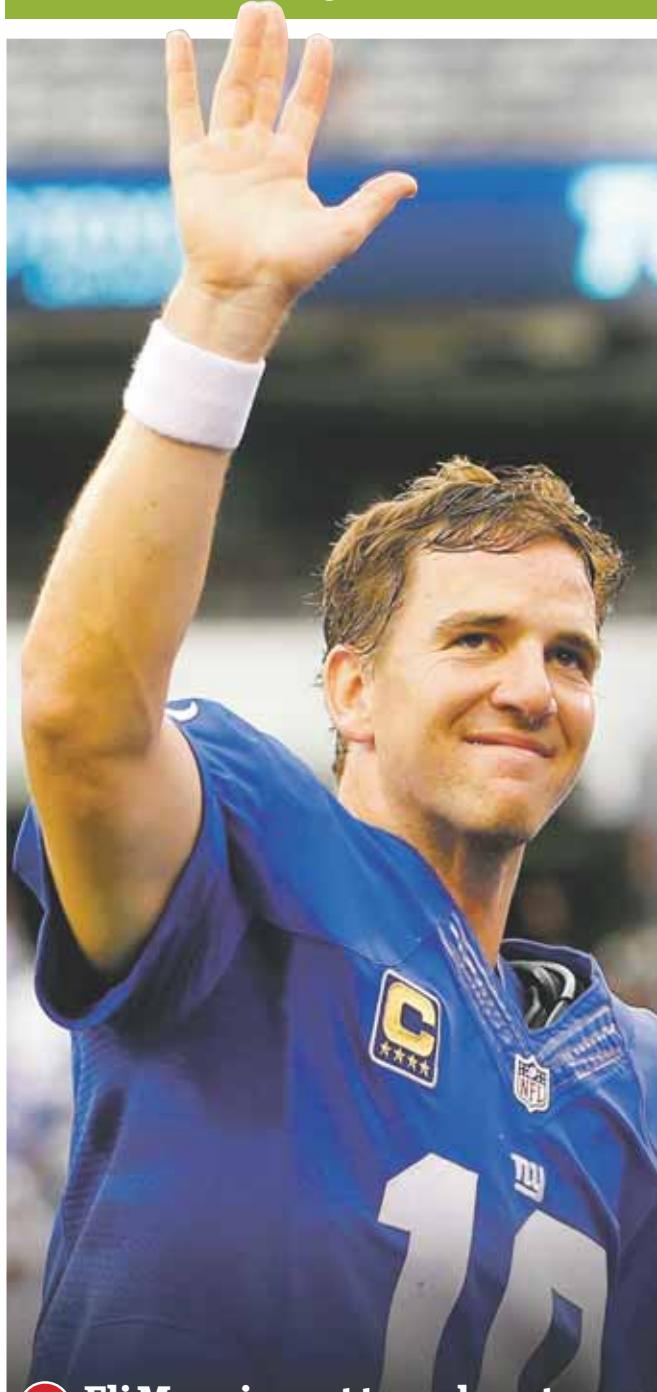
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HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE

From portable monitors to the iPhone 11 Pro, check out the best tech gifts of 2019. 12,14

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FAMILIAR FACES AND NEW BEGINNINGS



Eli Manning set to make return to Giants huddle on Monday night vs. Eagles. 21



Billionaire Steve Cohen poised to buy majority of Mets from Wilpon family. 22

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President argues economy is strong enough to justify the reduction in food assistance.

The Trump administration said on Wednesday it will make it harder for states to keep residents in the U.S. food stamp program in a move that is projected to end benefits for nearly 700,000 people.

President Donald Trump has argued that many Americans receiving food stamps through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, known as SNAP, do not need it given the strong economy and low unemployment. The program provides free food to 36 million Americans.

The administration has now finalized a rule that tightens guidelines on when and where states can waive limits on how long certain residents can receive benefits. The changes will move more "able-bodied" adults into the workplace, U.S. Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue said.

"States are seeking waivers for wide swaths of their population, and millions of people who could work are continuing to receive SNAP benefits," he told reporters.

The United States generally limits the amount of time that adults ages 18-49, who do not have



U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue.

REUTERS

1

Trump administration moves to remove 700,000 people from food stamps

dependents or a disability, can receive food stamps to three months in a 36-month period, unless they meet certain work requirements.

with an unemployment rate as low as 2.5% have been included in waived areas, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which runs SNAP.

waivers and standards for demonstrating whether an area has enough jobs to justify a waiver.

The U.S. unemployment rate was 3.6% in October.

"We need everyone who can work to work," Perdue said.

But critics say the moves will hurt poor Americans.

"This is an unacceptable escalation of the administration's war on working families,

and it comes during a time when too many are forced to stretch already-thin budgets to make ends meet," said U.S. Representative Marcia Fudge, an Ohio Democrat.

The administration

has sought to tighten requirements for food stamps without congressional approval after Congress blocked a Trump-backed effort to pass new restrictions through the Farm Bill last year.

The latest rule will

take effect next year and save the U.S. government \$5.5 billion over five years by removing about 688,000 people from food stamps, said Brandon Lipps, a USDA deputy undersecretary.

"For those impacted it will mean less nutritious meals, or meals that are skipped altogether," said Cassie Ramos, policy associate for the Center for Science in the Public Interest, an advocacy group. REUTERS

Elon Musk says 'pedo guy' tweet was 'off the cuff'

2 Elon Musk, wrapping up testimony at his defamation trial on Wednesday, insisted his "pedo guy" Twitter message at the heart of the case was an "off-the-cuff" insult hurriedly written in anger. After leading a successful rescue of 12 boys and their soccer coach from a flooded cave in Thailand in July 2018, the plaintiff, Vernon Unsworth, in a CNN interview mocked Musk's offer of a mini-

submersible as a public relations stunt, and said Musk could "stick his submarine where it hurts." Musk testified he took to Twitter two days later to lash back at Unsworth because he found Unsworth's comments "extremely rude and contemptuous."

Musk said, and "absolutely not" an insinuation of the crime of pedophilia.

REUTERS

Canada's Trudeau plays down spat with Trump

3 Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Wednesday played down a video of him discussing U.S. President Donald Trump with other world leaders, saying that he had been surprised but happy with events at a bilateral meeting earlier in the day. Trump called Trudeau "two-faced" after a video surfaced of Trudeau talking with the leaders of Britain, France and the Netherlands about Trump's team's jaws dropping "to the floor" during an impromptu news conference with the two leaders. "We had a great meeting yesterday between me and the president... Last night I made a reference to the fact there was an unscheduled press conference before my meeting with president Trump, I was happy to take part in it but it was certainly notable," Trudeau said.

REUTERS

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NEWS



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Four Rikers officers suspended after inmate reportedly tried to hang himself

The inmate is currently in a medically-induced coma.



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Officials are investigating new claims that correction officers allowed an inmate to attempt to take his own life at Rikers Island.

ABC reports that three guards and a captain have been suspended after the allegations.

The incident took place last Thursday, according to CBS.

It was reported that an 18-year old, identified as Nicholas Feliciano, tried to hang himself with a piece of clothing, and the guards allegedly watched him for seven minutes before intervening, according to The New York Times.

It was reported that Feliciano was arrested on Nov. 19 on a parole violation.

The 18-year old survived the attempt and is currently in a medically induced coma. The New York Times reports the

18-year old was put into the coma on Tuesday. Sources told outlets that Feliciano was on a respirator with no brain activity.

The New York Times also reported that Feliciano had a history of mental health issues and suicide attempts.

ABC says that before the attempt, it was reported that the inmate got into a fight at the jail, and was moved out of the general population the day he attempted to take his life.

DOC Commissioner Cynthia Brann released the following statement about the incident:

"The claims being made here are extremely troubling and we are taking them seriously. The safety and well-being of those in our custody is our number one priority and an investigation into this incident is underway. Three officers and one captain have already been suspended and if the outcome of the investigation warrants, we will take appropriate disciplinary action up to and including termination. We have referred this case to the city's

Department of Investigation, which is conducting an independent inquiry."

News of this incident comes after Mayor de Blasio shared news earlier this week that the land use process has been started to officially prohibit the incarceration of individuals in Rikers after Dec. 31, 2026.

They are seeking to change the Rikers Island designation on the official city map to a public place.

promise to close Rikers once and for all. Though mass incarceration may not have started here, we'll do all we can to make sure it ends here."

As part of the roadmap to closing Rikers, it was reported that the Eric M. Taylor Center (EMTC) on Rikers Island will close in March. Additionally, the Brooklyn Detention Complex (BKDC) in Boerum Hill will close by the end of January.

"We're making good on our promise to close Rikers once and for all. Though mass incarceration may not have started here, we'll do all we can to make sure it ends here."

Mayor de Blasio

Mayor de Blasio said in a statement earlier this week, "By guaranteeing that Rikers will never again be used for incarceration, we're charting a new course forward for the island and the people of New York City."

He added, "We're making good on our

If you are struggling with suicidal thoughts or are worried about a loved one, help is available. For assistance, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255 or text TALK to 741-741. For more resources, go to suicidepreventionlife-line.org.

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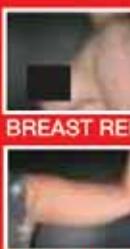
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Michael Gerhardt, professor of law at University of North Carolina School of Law, testifies as he sits among fellow witnesses Noah Feldman, professor of law at Harvard University Law School, Pamela Karlan, co-director of the Supreme Court Litigation Clinic at Stanford University Law School and Jonathan Turley, professor of law at George Washington University Law School, during the first House Judiciary Committee hearing on the impeachment inquiry into U.S. President Donald Trump on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC on December 4, 2019. REUTERS

Legal experts summoned by Democrats call Trump actions impeachable

Trump called the report a "joke" at the NATO meeting in London.

President Donald Trump's actions to prod Ukraine to pursue investigations that could benefit him politically represent impeachable offenses, constitutional law experts called by Democrats testified to the U.S. Congress on Wednesday as lawmakers laid the groundwork for formal charges against Trump.

At a House of Representatives Judiciary Committee hearing featuring political theatrics, three law professors chosen by the Democrats made clear that they believed Trump's actions constituted impeachable offenses including abuse of power, bribery, obstruction of Congress and obstruction of justice.

A law professor selected by Trump's fellow Republicans disagreed, saying the Democratic-led impeachment inquiry was "slipshod" and "rushed" and lacked testimony from people with direct knowledge of the relevant events, adding that current evidence does not show Trump committed "a clear criminal act."

With Trump headed toward possible impeachment in the Democratic-controlled House within weeks, Republican law-

makers repeatedly tried to interrupt the hearing by raising objections and points of order. One of the three professors called by the Democrats told the committee's top Republican, Doug Collins, she felt insulted by remarks he made.

The impeachment inquiry, launched in September, focuses on Trump's request on Ukraine to conduct investigations that could harm Democratic political rival Joe Biden. Collins said the impeachment drive – or as he called it a "railroad job" – was motivated by

then would hold a trial on whether to remove Trump from office.

Trump has denied wrongdoing.

In London for a NATO meeting, Trump called a report by House Democrats released on Tuesday that laid out possible grounds for impeachment a "joke" and appeared to question the patriotism of the Democrats, asking, "Do they in fact love our country?"

The focus of the inquiry is a July 25 telephone call in which Trump asked Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky

"If we cannot impeach a president who abuses his office for personal advantage, we no longer live in a democracy. We live in a monarchy or we live under a dictatorship."

Noah Feldman, Harvard University law professor

the deep-seated hatred Democrats feel toward Trump since he won the 2016 election.

The hearing was the committee's first to examine whether Trump's actions qualify as "high crimes and misdemeanors" punishable by impeachment under the U.S. Constitution.

The panel would draft any articles of impeachment – formal charges – against Trump. If the House approves such charges, the Senate

to open an investigation into Biden and his son Hunter Biden and into a discredited theory promoted by Trump's allies that Ukraine, not Russia, meddled in the 2016 U.S. election.

Hunter Biden had joined the board of Ukrainian energy company Burisma while his father was U.S. vice president. Trump has accused the Bidens of corruption without offering evidence. They have denied wrongdoing. REUTERS



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					3 people	\$92,915 - \$124,930
					4 people	\$92,915 - \$138,710
3 bedrooms		\$3,122	7	→	5 people	\$92,915 - \$149,890
					3 people	\$107,040 - \$124,930
					4 people	\$107,040 - \$138,710
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					6 people	\$107,040 - \$160,940
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Kim Jong Un rides again as North Korea warns U.S. against using military force

A series of unspecified threats have been issued.

North Korea said it would take "prompt corresponding actions" if the United States resorts to military force, state media reported on Wednesday, as tensions rise ahead of Pyongyang's year-end deadline for stalled denuclearization talks.

The statement came just hours after North Korea announced it would convene a rare gathering of top ruling-party officials later this month, and state media showed photos of leader Kim Jong Un taking a second symbolic horse ride on the country's sacred Mt. Paektu.

U.S. President Donald Trump, in Britain for a NATO summit, said on Tuesday that Washington could use military force



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un rides a horse as he visits battle sites in areas of Mt Paektu, Ryanggang, North Korea, in this undated picture released by North Korea's Central News Agency (KCNA) on December 4, 2019. REUTERS

against North Korea "if we have to," though he added he still hoped for talks.

Kim was "displeased to hear" those comments, Pak Jong Chon, chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army, said in a statement carried by North Korea's state news agency KCNA.

"I clearly state here

that if the U.S. uses any armed forces against the DPRK, we will also take prompt corresponding actions at any level," Pak said, using the initials of North Korea's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

"The use of armed forces against the DPRK

will be a horrible thing for the U.S."

North Korea and the United States are still technically at war and the state of truce could turn into an "all-out armed conflict any moment" even by accident, Pak said.

For the second time in two months, Kim visited Mt Paektu on horseback,

this time accompanied by senior military officers, aimed at instilling the mountain's "indefatigable revolutionary spirit" in the people, KCNA reported.

Kim has warned the United States it has until the end of the year to offer more concessions or North Korea will pursue an unspecified "new path." Analysts say that may include a resumption of intercontinental ballistic missile launches or nuclear tests.

Washington has urged North Korea to give up significant portions of its nuclear arsenal before punishing international sanctions are eased, while Pyongyang has accused the United States of "gangster-like" demands for unilateral disarmament.

U.S. officials have called for more talks, while playing down the deadline as "artificial" and

warning that it would be a "huge mistake and a missed opportunity" for North Korea to take any provocative steps.

But North Korean state media have carried a steady chorus of statements in recent weeks, saying Washington should not ignore the warning and dismissing U.S. calls for talks as a stalling tactic.

The 15-member United Nations Security Council met behind closed doors on Wednesday over missile launches conducted by North Korea last week. Following the meeting, the council's five European members condemned Pyongyang's "provocative actions."

While Kim's plans are still unclear, the signals suggest the window for diplomacy is closing fast, if it is not already shut, said John Delury of Seoul's Yonsei University. REUTERS



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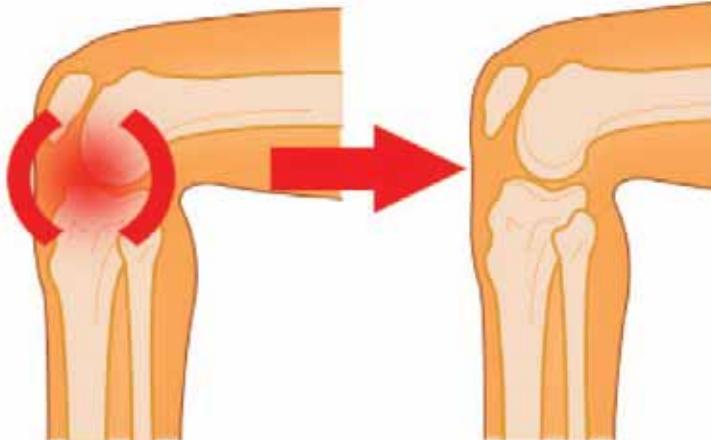
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Viscosupplementation is where a doctor introduces a gel-like medicine directly into the joint space. This helps to lubricate the joints often relieving some, most or even all of your pain. Results can last for 6 months to several years.

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NYC Pain MD has spared no expense and used advanced imaging to guide the injections assuring the medicine gets into the joint. We frequently get results when this treatment was a failure done elsewhere.

The second thing you must know is... our treatment plans are custom made for every patient. And we have all these treatments

offered in the same place. Many times you will get the best results from multiple treatments. At *NYC Pain MD* your doctors will all be there and will all know each other and you and your case. They work together and give you the best treatments and care without you having to go anywhere else.

The ability to select the right patients and then have the potential to give them any or all of these treatments... with all the necessary medical technology... under one roof... has allowed *NYC Pain MD* to get better results than they thought possible.

Here's What You Should Do Next

If you suffer with knee pain... and any of this made sense to you... *NYC Pain MD* would like to offer you a No-cost screening. That screening is the first step in our “Treatment Formula.”

You will get to see a doctor and ask any questions you have. Your doctor will take the first steps to see if you qualify for treatments and give you recommendations.

The best thing is... you will finally get direction. You will know what's going on and what is your best course of action... step-by-step. The treatments will be explained in detail and you will breathe a big sigh of relief finally knowing what's going on and what can or cannot be done.

There is so much we want to say to help you... but I'm out of space. Give us a call at **877-296-6310** and take the first step. That step is free without obligation.

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Trader Joe's pulls numerous items due to Listeria concerns

Some impacted items include sushi, salad, poke bowls and more.



BECCA
GLASSER-BAKER
Rebecca.Glasser@metro.us

Salads, ready-to-eat sushi and other items are being recalled because they might contain Listeria monocytogenes.

Trader Joe's shared a statement on Tuesday, which read, "In relation to the Fuji Foods Recall, we have been alerted by our supplier that the following refrigerated products – sold only in our AL, CT, DC, DE, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, SC, TN, VA, VT & WI stores – may have the potential to be contaminated with Listeria monocytogenes."

It was reported by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that Fuji Food Products Inc. announced its voluntary recall last Wednesday. Outlets said that the issues were initially discovered in Brockton, Massachusetts, during a routine inspection performed by the FDA.

Fuji Food Products CEO Farrell Hirsch said in a statement, "As responsible processors of safe, fresh food for nearly 30 years, we are addressing this problem vigorously



GETTY IMAGES

Below are the dishes and SKU numbers of items possibly impacting by Listeria:

• California rolls	34899
• Classic California Rolls with Brown Rice and Avocado	90982
• Spicy California Rolls	34896
• Tempura Shrimp Crunch Rolls	51328
• Tofu Spring Rolls	92151
• Shrimp Spring Rolls	90879
• Smoked Salmon Philly Roll	60377
• Smoked Salmon Poke Bowl	60375
• Banh Mi Inspired Noodle Bowl	61471
• Queso Fundido Spicy Cheese Dip	64657

and we apologize to those who are affected by it."

Hirsch added, "We will restart operations only after we have eliminated the cause, and the FDA certifies that our facility is once again free of possible contamination."

As of Dec. 3, no illnesses have been reported, and all affected products have been pulled from the shelves.

If you purchased any of these items with the specific codes shown above, please do not eat them.

Trader Joe's wants you to return the product for a full refund or throw out the item.

For questions, comments or concerns, Trader Joe's encourages you to call their Customer Relations number (626-599-3817). The phone number can be reached Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Pacific time. You can also fill out an online form at traderjoes.com.

For more information on the recall, go to fda.gov.

BRIEF

NYPD reveals sketch of man wanted for anti-gay hammer attack

The NYPD needs your help finding a suspect who allegedly attacked a man with a hammer after yelling anti-gay slurs. NYPD's Hate Crimes Task Force is investigating and released a sketch of the suspect earlier this week.

The NYPD Crime Stoppers page tweeted: "WANTED for an Assault in the confines of the 46th Precinct/Transit District 11 on the N/B train platform at the Tremont Street Station on 11/11 @ 1 AM Reward up to \$2500 Seen him? Know who he is? Call 1-800-577-TIPS or DM us! Calls are CONFIDENTIAL!#YourCityYourCall!"

The victim is a 21-year-old



male who was waiting for the N/B train in the Bronx at the Tremont Street station.

The incident took place on Nov. 11, and NBC reported that the suspect tried to hit the victim with a hammer and missed. The suspect and the victim struggled more, and eventually, the suspect threw the victim on the train

tracks.

There were plenty of witnesses who alerted MTA employees of the situation. The MTA was able to stop the arriving train before it was too late. It was also reported that the MTA helped pull the victim back safely.

The victim was transferred to Saint Barnabas Hospital, where he is recovering from a laceration and contusion to his head.

If you or anyone you know has any information about the incident, you are encouraged to call the NYPD Crime Stoppers Hotline at 1-800-577-TIPS or for Spanish, 1-888-57-PISTA (74782). You can also send in a tip via Twitter or go to Crimestoppers.com.

BECCA GLASSER-BAKER

GIFT GUIDE



POLAROID ORIGINALS ONESTEP+

A camera is always a good gift for every occasion; however, Polaroid's OneStep+ is very special and attractive. This small Polaroid instant camera has various ways to play, as it connects to the Polaroid Originals application through Bluetooth wireless technology, unlocking six creative tools that will allow you to create amazing photos. SITE: us.polaroidoriginals.com



MURAL CANVAS

Giving away artistic works is also a good idea for Christmas, but giving a frame that allows you to enjoy many artistic works is even better. The Mural Canvas is an intelligent frame that can be controlled through an app that allows you to display digital works of art or your worst family photos in your home.

SITE: meural.netgear.com



IPHONE 11 PRO

Without doubt the most popular technological gift this year (for those who have enough money) will be the iPhone 11 Pro and its Max version. Apple's new smartphones, especially the Pro version, have become the most popular mobile devices in recent months. The iPhone 11 Pro draws a lot of attention from potential buyers because it has a third telephoto lens and a sharper and brighter OLED screen.

SITE: apple.com

THE GLOW LIGHT

These small bedroom lamps can be a great gift for those looking to sleep more comfortably and relaxingly with the help of smart lights. At night, this device will gradually darken until it is time for bed, and in the morning it gradually lights up. It has a programmable application and a fun gesture interface.

SITE: casper.com



TECH CHRISTMAS GIFTS

DANIEL CASILLAS, METRO WORLD NEWS
PHOTOS: CORTESÍA

ONEWHEEL PINT

Hoverboards have been popular for several seasons, but the Onewheel Pint is an innovative, different and fun option, which has only one tire and can manage well on tough terrain, whether they be grassy fields or sidewalks with potholes.

SITE: onewheel.com



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5 BEST PORTABLE MONITORS

External displays that can be connected to mobile devices have become a new tech trend. Metro shows some of the most attractive models on the market.

DANIEL CASILLAS MWN



ALL PHOTOS PROVIDED



C-FORCE

The C-Force CF015C is a 4K screen that connects via USB with different types of mobile devices to provide efficient multiscrren interactivity. The 15.6-inch screen is just 6 mm thick and weighs 700 grams.



ESPRESSO DISPLAYS

Creators of Espresso Displays claim their devices are the world's thinnest portable monitors. Designed to reach your maximum productivity anywhere, these gadgets are compatible with phones, consoles and laptops.

SPUD

- SPUD is regarded as the world's largest ultra-portable display.
- Also, it is the only 24-inch high-resolution display with the impressive benefit of "ultra-portability." It collapses to the size of a book, making it ideal for travel lovers.



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Must arrive via line run bus to receive offer.

MNY

ASTRO 4K

This monitor is capable of connecting wirelessly to other devices, including laptops and notebooks, to extend the workspace and save users the stress and clumsiness associated with having cables all around the room.



SUNSCREEN

In addition to being completely portable, this monitor promises a completely clear visibility even when exposed to solar rays. According to its creators, Sunscreen is fully compatible with all mobile devices.



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A photograph of three people posing for a photo booth. A man in the center wears a Santa hat and a bow tie, flanked by two women in sailor-style hats. One woman holds a pink frame with a green Christmas tree graphic, and another holds a blue speech bubble sign that reads "LET'S PARTY". They are on a ship deck with a city skyline silhouette at the bottom left. The background is a gold sequined wall.

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sudoku

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9			5	1		4	
	1		3	9			2
3			4		8		6
5				7	3		1
		3			9		
1	9		5	6			4
4			2		9		7
6				4	7		8
	3		6	8			1

MEDIUM

			6	4	1		
	6	8					
7		2	9				
	7	5		4	2	6	
4	3		5		9		1
		1	8	3		5	7
				1	4		9
					7	5	
	4	6	9				

HARD

			1				
	6	1	9	2			5
				8	7	4	
			7			3	6
		2			9		
4	3			5			
5	3	2					
2			4	7	8	9	
			8				

READER WRITE-INS:

EATING MEALS ON THE SUBWAY

Hey you, with the spaghetti and meatballs, isn't there a better time to be eating that instead of rush hour traffic on the subway? Not only is it causing you to spread out, leaving little room for the rest of us to sit, but it's just kind of ... gross. Wait until you get home!

Anonymous, Metro US reader



ISTOCK

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Aries Listen, observe and gather facts. Diplomacy will be required if you don't want to face a backlash and blame for something you didn't do.



Taurus Let your memories lead you back in time to old friends, loved ones or pastimes you used to enjoy. It's never too late to go back. Love and romance will give you a big boost.



Gemini Be reserved around people whom you suspect of harboring ulterior motives. Do what's expected of you and move along. Avoid disputes.



Cancer Choose to have fun. A positive attitude will lead to popularity and plans with someone special. An unexpected opportunity will help you reach a higher goal.



Leo You can make changes at home, but don't go overbudget. An innovative plan will lower your overhead or give you the space you need to explore a new project.



Virgo You will be offered valuable information that will help you get ahead. Make arrangements to celebrate with a loved one.



Libra Take care of your responsibilities. You will damage your reputation if you fall short or let someone else take control. Live up to the promises you make.



Scorpio Do what makes you happy. Talks will lead to healthy choices that will improve your livelihood, relationships and future. Make personal growth and romance priorities.



Sagittarius Don't accommodate someone who is using emotional tactics to pressure you into something. Stick to what's practical instead of trying to do the impossible to avoid an emotional or financial loss.



Capricorn Make plans with family, friends or someone you want to collaborate with. A concept you come up with can be presented and initiated. Recognition is heading your way.



Aquarius Remember an incident and the people involved to find insight into how best to move forward now. An old goal may be revived, giving you a new perspective.



Pisces Say what's on your mind and clear the air. Once you have answers, you will know precisely what you must do. Use your imagination and take action.

EUGENIA LAST

Sippin' through a winter wonderland

Loews Regency Hotel is offering a delicious treat for the holiday season.



MOLLY GIVEN
Molly.Given@metro.us

In the ice-cold weather, a piping hot cup of delectably soothing hot chocolate is just what the doctor ordered. At the Loews Regency Hotel next to Central Park in New York City, guests will get to indulge in the seasonal favorite treat in a deliciously unique way this year with its new Holiday Cocoa and Cocktails promotion featuring a variety of libations for both kids and adults.

"New York City is a magical place over the holidays and there is no better way to celebrate the season than with a warm drink at The Regency Bar & Grill after a day of museum hopping on

Museum Mile, shopping on Madison Avenue or at our Bloomingdale's holiday pop up in our Lobby," said John Maibach, Managing Director, Loews Regency New York Hotel in a release.



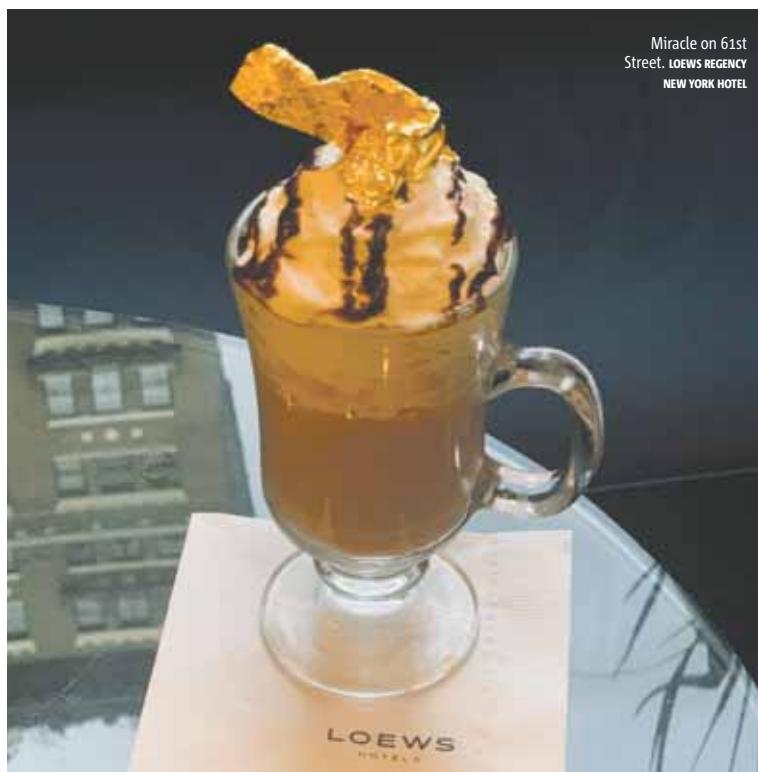
ISTOCK

One delightful cocktail from Loews Regency, "Miracle on 61st Street," incorporates Grey Goose vanilla vodka, walnut liqueur, hot cocoa and is topped with whipped cream, a chocolate drizzle topper and an edible gold leaf. The kid's version incorporates all of the deli-

cious flavors listed above minus the more spirited ingredients. "Miracle on 61st Street" is now available at The Regency Bar & Grill for \$24 until New Year's Day. According to the release, as a bonus, the kid-friendly cocoa will also be offered complimentary with the purchase of "spiked" cocoa for adults.

According to the release, headquartered in New York City, Loews Hotels & Co is rooted in deep heritage and excellence in service. The hospitality company encompasses branded independent Loews Hotels, and a solid mix of partner-brand hotels. The Holiday Cocoa and Cocktails is just another way that the hotel is able to offer a special treat for all New Yorkers during this magical time of year.

For more information on all of the holiday happenings at the Loews Hotel visit loewshotels.com



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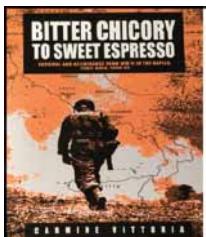
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Actress Julie Hagerty on cutting the tension with comic relief in 'Marriage Story'



WILSON WEBB

Noah Baumbach's newest film hits Netflix this weekend. **PAT KING**

In most films about divorce, there is a tendency to create clear sides for the audience to root for. One person has to be cast as the villain who has done something so reprehensible to the other person that there is no disputing that they should be at fault in the dissolution of their marriage. But what happens when people simply split up for the reason that they are just no longer compatible with each other? This realistic depiction of a couple falling out of love is what anchors Noah Baumbach's latest film, "Marriage Story," starring Adam Driver and Scarlett Johansson. The film has been playing in select theaters over the past month but will make its way to Netflix this Friday.

The film follows Driver and Johansson's characters -- Charlie and Nicole -- who have been married for sev-

eral years and share a child together named Henry, played by Azhy Robertson. Charlie and Nicole both run an experimental theater company in New York where Charlie writes and directs and Nicole stars. Things start to fall apart in their marriage for a number of reasons, and Nicole decides to leave New York for Los Angeles to take her chances getting cast in a network pilot. She moves back home with her actress mother Sandra, played by the hilarious Julie Hagerty, in order to lay down roots back in her hometown and assembles her legal team against Charlie.

Hagerty, the comedic treasure from the classic "Airplane!" films, provides some of the film's biggest laughs as Sandra tries to offer a safe haven for her daughter while trying to maintain a great relationship with her old son-in-law and her grand-

son. When I spoke with Hagerty over the phone, she tells me of how Baumbach's keen eye to detail and realistic approach to dealing with

the dissolution of a family drew her to the script.

"You just can't be with somebody for years, even if it's a son-in-law and you've got children. I think with any separation of people who have relationships there is a trickle down effect of how it affects everyone," explains Hagerty. "Every time I see this film, there are little nuances and it's such a testament to how great a director he is that you don't even notice because it's so natural a behavior."

Baumbach's writing and direction really make you familiar with the eccentricities of not only Charlie and Nicole, but all of the supporting characters that populate their world. Whether it's Nicole's hard-ass divorce lawyer Nora



Julie Hagerty.
GETTY IMAGES



WILSON WEBB



WILSON WEBB

Fanshaw, played by the force of nature that is Laura Dern, Charlie's sympathetic lawyer Bert Spitz, played by Alan Alda, or the actors that make up Charlie's New York theater group, each character is given their own identifiable attributes that add color to the story.

"His writing is so gorgeous and clear. For each character, no matter the size of the part,

everyone has a very definitive personality that he has written," Hagerty adds. "From soup to nuts, there is such clarity and honesty that he gets out of each actor."

With such an incredible cast, Hagerty's performance truly shines as the most outright example of comic relief in the film as Sandra's quirks help to cut the tension of the main

conflict taking place.

"I loved playing her and I loved working with Adam, Merritt [Wever, who plays Nicole's sister, Cassie], and Scarlett." says Hagerty. "They are such great actors and only make you better. I loved playing that part. She's a mother who loves her kids and loves her grandbaby. She's a showbiz mom. I had a great time playing her."

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SPORTS



Eli Manning is likely to start on Monday night against the Eagles after getting benched in Week 2. GETTY IMAGES

Jones hurt, Eli to start Monday night

The franchise legend gets another chance to lead the Giants' offense.



JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

It looks like Eli Manning is going to get another opportunity to lead the Giants.

Rookie quarterback Daniel Jones has a high ankle sprain and is in a walking boot, making his status for Monday night's matchup with the Philadelphia Eagles doubtful.

Giants head coach Pat Shurmur admitted that it is "very likely" that Manning will get the start.

Shurmur likened Jones' injury to that of running back Saquon Barkley's, but to a lesser extent. Barkley's injury held him out for four weeks, though it was initially believed that he would miss between six and eight.

There has not been a definite timetable for Jones' return as of yet, but expect the Giants to practice extreme caution to ensure their future franchise quar-

terback is not put at risk amidst a lost season.

The Giants are now the worst team in the NFC following a 31-13 loss to the Green Bay Packers that dropped them to 2-10 on the season.

Manning has not appeared in a game since Week 2, which was believed to be his last-ever start with the organization.

The 38-year old continued to struggle behind the Giants' lackluster offensive line, completing 62.9 percent of his passes for 556 yards, two touchdowns and two interceptions before getting benched.

It was an unceremonious ending to a 16-year reign as the Giants' starting quarterback as Shurmur and general manager Dave Gettleman opted to hand the keys over to Jones, who was selected sixth overall back in April.

Now Manning will return to a Giants offense that is returning to health. Tight end Evan Engram (foot) and wide receiver Golden Tate (concussion) are expected to play on Monday night in Philadelphia. It would be the first time

this season that all of the Giants' playmakers are healthy and on the field at the same time.

Now, it's Manning's gain rather than Jones'.

The two-time Super Bowl champion and MVP will be greeted by a familiar and harsh opponent. Manning has been owned by the Eagles for most of his career, posting a 10-20 record in 30 career games against Philadelphia with 52 touchdowns and 34 interceptions.

The Eagles have nose-dived this season, hitting a new low in Week 13 with an embarrassing upset loss to the Miami Dolphins. It dropped their record to 5-7 as they can't find a way to catch the Dallas Cowboys in the NFC (L)East.

That won't matter much to Giants fans, who are likely more concerned with securing the No. 2 pick in the draft this spring rather than winning a few meaningless games at the end of another disappointing campaign.

However, it could set up a four-game send-off for arguably the greatest quarterback in franchise history before he rides off into the sunset.

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Wilpon family in talks to sell Mets to Steve Cohen

The billionaire hedge fund manager could take control of up to 80 percent of the team.



JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

The days of Fred and Jeff Wilpon as the majority owners of the New York Mets look to be numbered.

Sterling Partners — which is headed by the current Mets' owners — released a statement on Wednesday afternoon revealing that they are in negotiations with the franchise's minority owner, Steve Cohen, to increase his investment in the club.

According to Bloomberg, Cohen could purchase up to 80 percent of the organization, which would value the team at



Current Mets owners Fred (left) and Jeff (right) Wilpon. GETTY IMAGES

\$2.6 billion.

That same report states that Fred Wilpon is "making the move as part of estate and philanthropic planning."

"As part of the agreement, Fred Wilpon will remain in the role of the Control Person and CEO for five years and Jeff Wilpon will remain in his role as Chief Operating Officer for the 5 year period as well," the statement from Sterling read.

That suggests the Wilpons could be out by as soon as 2025.

Cohen, 63, is a hedge fund manager who founded Point72 Asset Management and is currently valued at \$9.2 billion. He bought a four percent stake in the Mets in 2012 and grew up a fan of the team in Great Neck.

The very next year, he pled guilty to insider trading and agreed to pay \$1.8 billion in fines.

The Wilpon family and Sterling Equities have been the majority owner of the Mets since 2002 but have yet to deliver the franchise its first World Series title since 1986.

Their rule has been headlined by an inability to spend big money on top players over the years, which is fallout from their loss of millions due to their involvement in the Bernie Madoff Ponzi scheme in 2008.

A new owner could bring about a change in philosophy for the Mets, who have been run like a small-market team despite playing in the largest sports market in the world. They were also valued by Forbes earlier this year as the sixth-most expensive MLB franchise.

Big-time money could result in big-time players and New York's National League team finally meeting high expectations placed on them by a starving fan base.

Phillies sign ex-Met Wheeler



GETTY IMAGES

The New York Mets have seen another person of interest depart for a different corner of the National League East.

After passing up on Joe Girardi for their managerial vacancy, the Mets saw their former righty Zack Wheeler sign with the Philadelphia Phillies on Wednesday, as first reported by Marc Carig.

NBC Sports Philadelphia's Jim Salisbury reports that the deal is worth just under \$120 million over five seasons.

Wheeler going to Philadelphia hit a fever pitch earlier in the day when Buster Olney reported that the Phillies were considered the top bidder for the free agent while the Cincinnati Reds and Minnesota Twins circled.

Wheeler, 29, has strung together two consecutive almost-healthy seasons following a convoluted and difficult road back to the majors after undergoing Tommy John surgery in 2015.

He has started 60

games since the start of 2018, going 23-15 with a 3.65 ERA and a 1.194 WHIP.

The righty showed a glimpse of becoming a top-tier starter during the second half of the 2018 season when he was one of the most dominant pitchers in the National League.

In his final 15 starts two seasons ago, he went 10-1 with a 2.06 ERA.

He had a similar big finish in 2019, too, which only helped his value on the free agent market. He starting the season 7-6 with a 4.91 ERA, but went 4-2 with a 2.66 ERA in his

final 11 starts.

Possessing an arm that should be fresh for a starter entering his age 30 season — he's pitched 791.2 innings since 2013 — was another reason why his price tag was so high.

The Mets initially offered Wheeler a \$17.8 million qualifying offer earlier this offseason, which was declined. They didn't display much gumption in an attempt to re-sign him after that.

It will leave them searching for a fifth starter to join Jacob deGrom, Noah Syndergaard, Marcus Stroman and Steven Matz. They could attempt

to make a splash in the free agent market by going after a big name like Madison Bumgarner and they'll take the more familiar, conservative route and promote from within. That would mean bringing either Robert Gsellman or Seth Lugo back into the starting fold after extensive bullpen work.

As for the Phillies, the acquisition of Wheeler provides that top-three rotational help the organization has so desperately needed over the past few seasons.

Aaron Nola has received little support from Vince Velasquez, Zach Eflin and Nick Pivetta while Jake Arrieta has been hampered by injuries and inconsistencies.

Adding Wheeler with Nola — who did regress in 2019 after finishing third in the NL Cy Young Award voting two years ago — and a healthy Arrieta gives the top of the Phillies' rotation a considerable boost.

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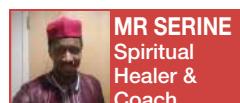
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 14 beans; flat legumes
 15 Choir members
 16 or false test
 17 Acting award
 18 Leading the way
 20 As fit fiddle
 21 Make a cup of tea
 22 Very funny people
 23 Huck Finn's creator
 25 11th of 12: abbr.
 26 Martin and Charlie
 28 Tightwads
 31 Removed an apple's center
 32 Prayer before meals
 34 "Please Don't ___ the Daisies"
 36 Ardent
 37 Pet ___; sore point
 38 Epiphany visitors
 39 culpa
 40 Sunflower ___; healthy snack
- 10 ___ for; work to obtain

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- 41 Actor Romero
 42 Andean pack animals
 44 Select
 45 Hitchcock or Scorsese: abbr.
 46 ___ away; flabbergasted
 47 Move over a bit
 50 Boom of thunder
 51 Author Doyle's monogram
 54 Atrocious
 57 Ending for flex or convert
 58 Heating chamber
 59 First, second, third & home
 60 Run-down urban area
 61 Cribbage board inserts
 62 Jittery
 63 Pegs for Tiger
- DOWN**
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I	C	O	N	S	L	I	M	E	C	L
K	I	M	R	O	A	D	S	P	O	I
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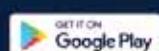


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